

Minuteman

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Reservists hold down fort on home front

Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Brannen Parrish
Public Affairs

Across the nation men and women are putting their jackets, ties and business suits in their closets and donning camouflage utilities. At the end of November the



Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Doucette creates a controller checklist shortly after arriving for work at the 94th Airlift Wing Command Post.

Air Force had activated nearly 30,000 reservists, some performing missions over Afghanistan and others running mid-air refueling operations.

But, many are finding themselves holding down the local fort. Traditional reservists assigned to Dobbins Air Reserve Base are fulfilling their obligation by honoring the oaths they took when the likeli-

hood of activation seemed minimal and there was little, perceived threat.

Master Sgt. Theresa L. Hunt of the 22d Air Force has not shirked her duty. An administrative assistant in her civilian job, her Air Force career spans 18 years. Mobilized in early November, Hunt is augmenting the Command Post at the 22d Air Force.

"I'm glad to be able to contribute something to the military when our country needs assistance," she said.

The 22nd AF, comprising 24 flying squadrons and 225 support units in 14 states, is responsible for more than 25,000 reservists. Reservists are being activated in key positions that will ensure around-the-clock coverage in all functional areas, filling gaps in critical places like Crisis Action Teams.

Staff Sgt. James Mazurek, a fuel supervisor with the 94th Logistics Group, was activated to augment the Fuels section. His section is responsible for fueling aircraft, servicing liquid oxygen tanks, sampling fuel and performing minor maintenance on the section's vehicles. Mazurek said his section is busier since Sept. 11.

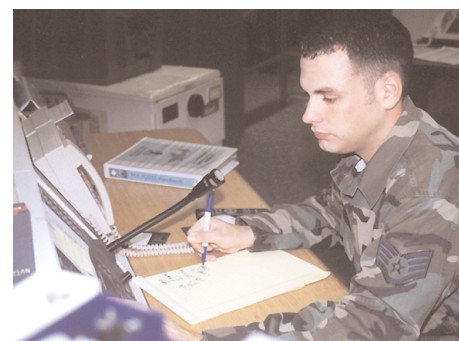
"Our workload has gone up nearly 100 percent, and we have increased our operating hours from 15 to 24 hours a day," he said. The unit is pumping fuel for the C-130 aircraft based at Dobbins and

planes in transit to other bases -- increasing the customer base.

For Staff Sgt. Sam Ruff, a Command Post controller at the 94th Airlift Wing Command Post, the move to active duty has proven to be a welcome change from the nine-to-five civilian lifestyle to which he was accustomed. With a Command Post that operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week with personnel exchanging the duty at eight-hour intervals, Ruff and his co-workers monitor radios and classified message traffic from aircraft, maintain administrative records and keep track of incidents on the installation. Command Post personnel are responsible for ensuring the wing commander is kept informed

when he is not at the base. Ruff maintained, "We are the wing commander's eyes and ears after hours." Ruff, whose civilian job is map-making for the Paulding County Courthouse, said his civilian bosses were sad to see him leave, but were supportive. "They are a government entity, so they understood the need for assistance," he said. "They didn't have a problem losing me for a while and told me to go do what I have to do."

Twenty-year reservist Tech. Sgt. Jennifer Doucette was driving to her job at Federal Express on Sept. 11 when she heard about the tragedy on the radio.



From the 94th Airlift Wing Command Post, Staff Sgt. Sam Ruff gathers and relays information to a pilot flying toward Dobbins ARB. Ruff is working the late-night shift.

Instinctively, she called the 94th Airlift Wing Command Post to inquire if her skills as a command post controller would be needed.

"That night, I reported to duty," she said. Being activated has a positive effect on morale. The Pentagon noted that troops who were sent to Bosnia were more satisfied with their service and increased morale. Doucette seems to feel similarly.

"Invigorating," is how she describes being activated. "Regardless of the task or calling, I believe that it's important to do your part, not only in a part-time situation, but also in a full-time capacity. Being activated gives me a sense of (for lack of better words) 'well-being.' It leads me to believe that the education and training of the past can be, and will be, used to the fullest, and that the time I have invested is not, and has not been, in vain."

With increased manpower at Dobbins comes the increased need for sup-

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Staff Sgt. James Mazurek uses a flash-point tester at the fuel lab to determine the minimum amount of heat needed to ignite the fuel, also ensuring the fuel's purity.

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Around the Wing



(Photo by Don Peek)

By Maj. Cheryl Wayne
94th Mission Support Squadron,
commander

Professionalism means different things to different people. Webster defines it as a “professional quality, status, etc.” Going further, Webster states, “engaged in or worthy of the high standards of a profession.”

The military of many cultures, past and present, displays high standards for the warriors who defend their land. The standards that support professionalism the most are attitude, commitment to duty and pride in your work. All three go hand in hand.

We’ve all heard the expression, “military service.” Let’s focus on the word service — “the act of giving assistance or advantage to another.” It takes the correct attitude to realize that life is a condition of service. We’re in service to the organizations that we are members of. Leaders serve their followers by providing good direction and sense of purpose. Followers serve their leaders by helping effect, shape and mold the mission that leaders have dictated.

We exist to serve the organization.

The organization exists to serve us. In developing the attitude to serve, we must be aware of our actions and what we reflect in terms of our actions. For instance, “it’s not what you say but how you say it.” Body language, words spoken and the spirit of attitude can make a bad situation worse or turn the situation around completely.

The will to survive is natural in all of us. As service members, when we are in harm’s way, we realize that we may not survive a combat situation. We are committed to carry out our duties anyway. As professional military members, we don’t neglect our duty in combat by saying, “I’m not doing this unless I’m guaranteed to live.” Memorial Day, Veterans Day, and Armed Forces Day celebrate the sacrifices our military members have made — especially the ultimate sacrifice.

We all recognize that commitment doesn’t come overnight. Basic training, “tech” school, PME and promotions help instill pride in knowing our professions. An airman basic is proud when his drill sergeant compliments him as an individual or team leader for doing a good job. We’re proud on graduation day when we receive that piece of paper, handshake and congratulations. We’re proud when our team, squadron or wing finishes number one in competition.

We must remember to keep that pride when it comes to the most boring and lackluster aspects of our job. The pride must be there when filing the hundred personnel files from a day’s work at the customer service center. The pride must be there when performing guard duty in the cold rain during the holidays. The pride must be there in formation, wearing the uniform correctly and meeting weight standards.

Take the time to think about what professionalism means to you and the actions you take that affect it.

Document those actions. Don’t forget about them. Review them during those times of self-doubt to see what you need to do to improve, lead or manage. As you move through your life’s journey, modify your list of actions about what

professionalism means to you. You may be surprised about the insight you will gain when it comes to attitude, your commitment to duty and pride in your work.

Top-Three Connection



(Photo by Don Peek)

Chief Master Sgt. Les Davy
22nd Air Force,
Life Support superintendent

I recall a few old adages my father and grandfather stated so eloquently from the time I was a young spud, “Proper planning prevents poor performance,” and “Any job worth doing is worth doing well.” One of my favorites is the famous statement made by President Kennedy, “Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country.” Living by these words has made me truly appreciate my time in service and helped me make decisions that positively impacted myself and those I’ve had the opportunity to mentor.

I was recently honored by my peers by being selected to the office of president of the Dobbins Chiefs Group. I can’t think of anything that would instill more pride in a member than to be recognized by your peers as a leader. I’m extremely

proud to hold this position, and count on all of the chiefs to assist me in working toward bettering the lives of the enlisted force assigned at Dobbins ARB.

Making chief was definitely one of the greatest moments of my career. I set this milestone at boot camp, knowing only one percent of the enlisted force attains this grade. As chiefs, we realize it means additional responsibilities. We know that we are responsible for each and every enlisted member, whether assigned to Dobbins or any other base. Just as first sergeants, members of the Top 3 and command chiefs must be willing to intervene on the behalf of any enlisted person when they are made aware of a deficiency or shortfall which could negatively impact that member.

Chiefs ask “What can we do for our organization.” As part of our responsibilities, the Dobbins Chiefs Group has donated \$2,000 to charitable causes this year alone. Much of it went to Family Readiness to help Reserve families during the holidays and to assist with meals for our forces that were here during the holidays. As a group, we work hard to raise these funds and feel our holiday giving is an important part of our mission in helping the people at Dobbins.

As chiefs, we’ve seen a great deal of change within our Air Force; but the one constant has been the pride and dedication displayed by our members for what we represent. We’ve seen uniform variations, implementation of the rank of senior airman, and the third “rocker” placed on chevrons for master sergeants. Not all of these changes were well received; but, for new airmen coming into the program, they are now commonplace. With the changes, some things remain the same. Young airman entering the Air Force with a career in mind had a goal then and have a goal now, to attain the rank of chief master sergeant.

Just as I did many years ago, I hope each enlisted member has both short and long term goals. The factors that are critical in achieving your goals: maintain core

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The day America changed, as we have known it

By Senior Master Sgt. Dallas E. Godfrey
94th Airlift Wing Plans,
logistics manager

On a recent TDY I had a chance to reflect on the events of Sept. 11. On that date America got a wakeup call when the twin towers were attacked by terrorists. Much has been said and written about the tragedy of that day, but nothing has made me more proud to be an American and serve in the Armed Services than the response of the American people during this time of crisis. The terrorists have made their mark on history, but they had no idea that they would awaken a free people, full of patriotism, with the love of freedom. The terrorist acts were meant to scare America and its way of life. Little did the terrorists know that they would awaken not only the Americans but all freedom loving people around the world.

It took only a few days for the financial firms to return to operations after the attack. The American people have begun to return to life as usual, with the knowledge that they have to con-

stantly be looking over their shoulder. Yes, we are still hurting inside and the grieving process will continue for some time, but America is on the move. It may take years to recover from the economic impact of Sept. 11, but this nation is committed to a full recovery. The president has surrounded himself with very knowledgeable people and is doing a great job building the alliances to fight the war on terrorism.



America has had its wake-up call. The date of Sept. 11, 2001 will be as memorable as Dec. 7, 1941. Our freedom and our way of life have once again been challenged. It is up to each of us to make sure we do our part to protect our freedoms. This may very well be the call to support our country and

communities. As history has taught us, freedom doesn't come cheaply, it is well worth the investment that our forefathers made to gain it, and we (all the people of America) have been the benefactors. Once again, as in the past, it is time to make an investment to preserve freedom for our children and grandchildren. May God continue to bless America and the freedom and ideals for which it stands.

(Photo by Senior Airman Michelle Stevenson)

Air Force Sergeants Association contributes cash to units



Last month AFSA Chapter 452 and its Auxiliary donated \$350 toward the purchase of holiday meals for activated reservists at Dobbins. Known as the Dobbins Chapter, the group traditionally supports Dobbins and provides holiday support for needy reservists through Family Readiness.

Left: Virginia Hershey, president of Chapter 452A, donates funds for Thanksgiving dinners for members of the 33rd Fighter Squadron. Accepting the check is Master Sgt. Ronald Monaghan, the unit's first sergeant. The presentations were made at American Legion Post 29 in Marietta. (Photo by Don Bradford)



Right: Luke Brackett (right), Chapter 452 president, gives Chief Master Sgt. Tom Murphy support for his 94th Security Forces Squadron troops. Brackett is a reservist with the 94th Aeromedical Staging Squadron. (Photo by Don Bradford)

New Top Three officers ready to roll

Run-off election for secretary

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values, consistently obtain a greater level of education (military and civilian) and always remember your past. Don't climb the ladder of success by stepping on others to get to the top. Help anyone you can throughout your career. Don't be afraid to ask for help. Every great leader had a mentor or someone who provided some semblance of assistance.

I thank each and every one of you for your dedication to the protection of our country. Please extend a special thanks to your families, and let them know how important they are to your success. I'd also like to thank our senior leadership for their support of our Chief's Group, allowing us to make a difference in the lives of our military family. May God bless and watch over you, and may 2002 be your best year ever. I'd like to leave you with a quote: "What you do speaks so loud that I cannot hear what you say." — Ralph



J. Ealy Ritter, Family Readiness director, accepts a donation from members of the Dobbins Chiefs Group. From left are Chief Master Sgts. John Cowman, John Stanley, Bill Smiley and Les Davy. The group donated \$1,700 to support needs of activated reservists at the base and assist military families with financial burdens. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bob Purtiman)

All but one position on the Dobbins Top Three Association's board have been filled, and a run-off election for the secretary's position has been scheduled for the February UTA. In close elections for each position, the new board members assumed their positions at the beginning of the year.

Senior Master Sgt. Mark Young, 22nd Air Force, was selected as the new president, and Master Sgt. Geambro Anderson, 80th Aerial Port Squadron, assumed the vice-president position. Senior Master Sgt. Kathy Young, 22nd Air Force, was chosen as treasurer, and Master Sgt. Mike Hensley, 622nd Regional Support Group, took on the duties of chaplain.

The vote for the group's secretary was a tie between Master Sgt. Cynthia Block, 22nd Air Force, and Master Sgt. Victoria Welch, 80th APS. Officers for the Top Three serve two-year terms and are responsible for the direction and operations of the group.

Carrying Olympic torch like walking on air, says reservist

By Senior Airman Micky Cordiviola
Public Affairs

Providing inspiration for people is nothing new for Senior Master Sgt. Donald Harris, but carrying a light for the 2002 Winter Olympics is something new. Harris, a member of the 80th Aerial Port Squadron, was among one of the 11,500 people across the U.S. to have the privilege of carrying the Olympic Torch on Dec. 4.

Because of his outstanding teamwork, dedication, dependability, achievement and leadership that inspires his co-workers, Harris was chosen to represent the United Auto Workers and the General Motors plant in Doraville as a torchbearer, receiving the opportunity to carry the flame approximately 0.2 miles.

"When I first found out that I had been selected to carry the Olympic Torch, I felt a joy that words cannot explain," said Harris, who was supposed to have retired three times from GM but voluntarily continued his service. "I didn't realize the magnitude of the selection process until after I was chosen and discovered how fortunate I was to be selected." His name was submitted as a possible candidate by the Human Resources department at the GM plant. A panel of four individuals made the final decision: the plant manager, the personnel director, and the UAW Local 10 chairman and its president.

"The way I look at it is that Olympic athletes have a flame of desire to be the best that they can be on a world stage," said Harris. "Each runner passes on the flame that will be lit in each one of the athletes. I was a part of carrying that flame the athletes will have burning inside when they are competing against each other." Harris was the last person to carry the flame in Atlanta, before it went on to Athens, Ga.

Harris said he was amazed by how others were chosen for the torch relay. A husband and wife team where the husband had given one of his kidneys to his wife to another torchbearer who was successful in fighting cancer, and the woman who carried pictures of the fallen firefighters at the World Trade Center, they all had their reasons. Harris didn't forget his team dedication either.

"I was chosen to represent my plant and the people who make up the plant," he said. "I have started going to every shift at the plant and walking up and down the assembly line to give everyone a chance to see and hold the Olympic Torch which I was fortunate enough to carry. When you represent someone you want him or her to feel a part of it.

"When I was running and the crowd was cheering, I felt as though I was walking on air," he added. "It will be a while for me to come down off of cloud number nine."

Dreams do come true

By Senior Airman David Atchison
Public Affairs

Sometimes dreams really can come true. Just ask Kevin Pearson Jr., son of Master Sgt. Kevin Pearson, an Air Transportation Operation Center supervisor in the 80th Aerial Port Squadron. Pearson Jr. will be going to the Winter Olympics this year.

Two years ago, Pearson made a wish to see the Winter Olympic games in Utah. The Make-A-Wish Foundation granted his wish. Pearson has sickle cell anemia, a hemoglobin disorder that causes chronic hemolytic anemia, increased susceptibility to infection, organ damage, and chronic and episodic pain in the sufferer. While sometimes incapacitating, Pearson doesn't allow his condition to stop him from doing the things regular kids his age do.

In addition, Scottish Rite Children's Hospital social worker, Kathy Holbert, nominated Pearson to be a torchbearer because of his leadership abilities and positive atti-

tude. The torchbearer is an individual who runs the torch for two-tenths of a mile before passing it to the next bearer; a tradition that dates back nearly 100 years. Pearson started the Atlanta leg of the relay at Centennial Park and ran the torch to Martin Luther King Blvd.

"It was an honor to be selected to carry the torch," said the young Pearson. "I was also nominated to help light the Rich's Christmas tree at Lenox Square Mall." With the help of another child, he pushed the button that lit the tree and started Christmas for Atlanta. Pearson was selected for the tree-lighting duties because of his condition and because he's a fighter.

"He's an inspiration to me," said his father. "He never limits himself, and he never stops dreaming." His son's outlook on life is very similar to the Olympic creed: "The most important thing in the Olympic Games is not to win but to take part, just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle. The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well." Pearson lives every day like an Olympian and a true champion.



Kevin Pearson, Jr. is all smiles as he gets some last-minute instructions on carrying the 2002 Winter Olympic torch as it journeys to Salt Lake City, Utah. Pearson, the son of 80th Aerial Port Squadron Master Sgt. Kevin Pearson, has sickle cell anemia and was nominated by his Scottish Rite Children's Hospital worker, Kathy Holbert, to carry the torch. Pearson will also be attending the games in February. (Photos by Master Sgt. Kevin Pearson)

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port in the form of meals. The 94th Services Squadron mobilized additional reservists like Staff Sgt. Roderick Redmon, services specialist, to assist with increased hours at the dining facility, recreation center and lakeside facility. The dining facility is providing dinner from 4:30

p.m. to 7:30 p.m. as well as late meals from 11 p.m. to 1 a.m. for reservists working late shifts.

Smith, who has served on active duty and with the Reserve for six years, said he is happy to be a part of the war against terrorism. "Being activated doesn't bother me at all. I served on active duty for four years, and I love my country," he said. "I'm glad to be a part of something and

lend a helping hand."

Redmon noted that 94th Services is supporting reservists who have been called up. The Lakeside facility is open for reservists who want to relax during their off-time. "We want them to come out and take advantage of the television and video games available," he said. "It's a good morale booster and a great way to relax after a 12-hour shift."

Smyrna Museum highlights stories of WW II vets

By Chief Master Sgt. David Curtis
Public Affairs

Patricia Burns always enjoyed listening to family lore growing up in western Minnesota during those nostalgic post-war years. So, when she saw the film “War Stories My Mother Never Told Me,” based on stories told by New Zealand women about their experiences during World War II, she was determined to do a photographic and documentary project of stories from Smyrna and Marietta veterans.

Today, the results of her work are on display at the Smyrna Museum. For the next several months, the museum will display histories of a number of local residents who took time to share their experiences with Burns. Making up the display are photographs, film, video-histories, and memorabilia that save the experiences and thoughts of men and women whose daily life for years was one of war and survival. Some of their remembrances are funny, while others are tearful and touching.

“Everybody has a story to tell,” said Burns. “I grew up with tales told around the table, especially at holiday times. So when I saw the documentary about the impact WW II had on the lives of those New Zealand women, I realized stories from that era had to be preserved.” While Burns was never in the

military, she worked with the refugee program in Vietnam in 1967 and 1968.

“After I saw that documentary from New Zealand, I kept thinking someone should collect those stories here. When no one seemed to be doing it, I decided to do it myself, before it was too late,” said Burns.

She began her work long before



Patricia Burns, a volunteer with the Smyrna Museum, and who just completed a World War II exhibit for the museum, enjoys talking about the men and women she interviewed for her war-years project. (Photo by Don Peek)

movies like “Saving Private Ryan” came along that increased public awareness of the contributions made by these veterans. Her display uniquely provides a personal, up-close insight at the war years for a

number of local residents, including several Red Cross women from Georgia who worked overseas.

“The community should be aware and proud of these now aging individuals,” added Burns. “When you get behind an elderly, slow driver, for example, remember they may have been flying fighter planes, using a machine gun or closing wounds 60 years ago.” She produced the exhibit with financial help from local businesses, individual donations, St. Thomas Knights of Columbus contributions, and a small grant from the governor’s office. Damon Wood of Nomad Pictures produced the documentary film, using interview footage collected by Burns.

As you walk into the museum, one of the first large photos in the exhibit is that of local veteran Ben Nally, who spent three years in the war effort. Joining the Army Air Corps in 1942, he decided to make his own decision about his future rather than waiting on the draft and ending up a foot soldier. Becoming a crew chief on the C-47 “Gooney Bird,” Nally flew a brand new plane into the war zone and ended up island hopping his way to the Philippines

from Australia, supporting the war against Japan.

“We trained in Florida and were sent to Ft. Wayne, Ind., for our assignment overseas,” recalled Nally, who left a wife and child behind to join the war effort. “But we didn’t know where we were going until we looked inside the airplane. There were eight 100-gallon fuel tanks, just enough to get from California to Hawaii. That’s when we knew we were on our way to the Pacific.

“The display is really great,” added Nally, “I’m proud of what we did, even though it’s been a long time ago.” He remembers dropping paratroopers from 500 feet to liberate prisoners of war. “They freed two thousand people without losing a man that day,” he said. “Last year at our reunion, I met one of the Philippians who as a child was in that camp.”

The Smyrna Museum, under the direction of former Smyrna Mayor Harold Smith, is located at 2861 Atlanta Street in the old depot building across from the city offices. The museum is open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Admission is free, but donations are gratefully accepted.

If you’re lucky Burns, who also volunteers at the museum, will give you a tour and talk about her display. She’ll tell you stories behind the sisters who joined the Army together, about the veteran who just wanted to get from behind the backside of a mule, and how wonderful it was to work with and talk to Ben Nally. And she just might throw in a few stories of her own Vietnam experiences.

Air Force launches headquarters transformation

The Air Force announced today a new initiative to transform Headquarters Air Force (HAF) into a more streamlined and effective organization. This will allow processes and staff arrangements to be put in place to cultivate efficiencies. The goals of this reorganization are to improve business processes, eliminate unnecessary bureaucratic duplication and oversight, and align appropriate headquarters functions in support of the nation’s warfighters.

“Along with our colleagues in the U.S. Army, we are closely aligning our civilian and uniformed staffs to speed decision making and to facilitate effective handling of multiple issues ranging from Air Force Department management issues to providing support for Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom,” said James G. Roche, secretary of the Air Force.

“This headquarters transformation reflects the need for all of us in government to be more agile and efficient,” said Roche. “The secretary of Defense has charged us with the task of working effectively together to execute our joint responsibilities to provide global reconnaissance and strike capabilities for this nation.”

One such enhancement will be the formation of a new deputy chief of staff for Warfighting Integration. Highlighting the growing importance of Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR), especially as a result of the war on terrorism, this office will focus management attention and allow us to modernize and integrate C2, C4, and ISR systems and provide an effective approach for managing this critical capability.

Another objective of the headquar-

ters transformation is to fully enable the Air Force, through the under secretary, to fulfill its responsibilities as DoD’s executive agent for space programs. This will facilitate the effective management of all classified and unclassified space programs in the Department of Defense and the National Reconnaissance Office.

The Air Force headquarters transformation is entirely consistent with existing legislation. The effort reflects an integrated product team approach that has proven to be highly successful in private industry. This enterprise architecture for managing our department will extend this same teamwork concept throughout the secretariat and Air Staff by closely linking military and civilian organizations.

“We owe it to our people to reduce workload by ending duplicative staffing

efforts on the secretariat and Air Staff,” said Gen. John Jumper, Air Force chief of staff. “We are confident this initiative will help us break down barriers, improve communication, and create a more integrated and effective staff.

“To the world outside the beltway, this should be a transparent change, but what it will do is improve the way we are organized to train, organize and equip the world’s greatest air and space force,” the chief said. “For example, the people who plan and program the Air Force budget will be better aligned to have closer relationships with the people who help execute the budget. This improved contact will result in a better way to do our business.”

Implementation of the initiative begins immediately. For more information, call Air Force PA at (703) 695-0640.

Medical support moves toward one-stop shopping

Are you sick and tired of spending a significant part of a drill weekend at the medical clinic having your body poked and prodded in areas that didn't hurt to begin with? If so, you are not the only one who feels this way.

The 94th Areomedical Staging Squadron is preparing to implement an innovative approach to medical support known as the Reserve Component Periodic Health Assessment.

The PHA, which was implemented only seven months ago, is a major shift from the past. It provides more thorough health history assessment evaluation than the previous annual AF 895, but evaluations focus more on in-depth evaluations when data suggests health problems may arise.

According to Senior Master Sgt. Michele Wells, NCOIC Physical Exam Section, the old program was clinical in nature and less focused on prevention. The PHA focuses on prevention through identification of potential lifestyle related health-risk issues such as special operational duty exams, suicide risk screening, pre-fitness test screening, and family history indicators. The PHA is a move away from the cycle of clinical exams every five years to a focus on the individual's risk

factors to include age, gender, medical history, and military occupation to determine the scope of the assessment. The sequence of short and long flying physicals for rated officers/NCOs remain essentially unchanged.

The PHA is required every year, with greater ancillary and paraprofessional testing on intervening three-year cycles. For the two years in between, you will still be required to complete the Reserve Component HRA form to annotate any changes to your lifestyle/interval health history. If health problems are not annotated, a clinical exam is not required.

But, just when you think you are off the hook, be aware that you are subject to an annual dental exam, which the AMDS is incorporating as part of the PHA process. "We found that during the Persian Gulf War people had chronic dental problems, which were not identified and were difficult to treat in the field," said Wells. The dental staff is now conducting initial exams as part of the PHAs. A private dental assessment (DD Form 2813) is available on the "W" drive in the AMDS folder, which may be used during the intervening two years when only the HRA is required. Your fitness monitor can assist you with obtaining this form.

In addition, each member is required

to receive an annual IPPD to evaluate for the presence of tuberculosis. The goal is also to have the IPPD and all other immunizations due within the next year to be given during the PHA; implementation of this initiative is in progress. The exceptions will be flu shots, which will be given in the fall and those immunizations with a periodicity of less than one year.

For members receiving occupational exams such as audiograms or other workplace specific evaluations, these will be conducted at the same time as the annual PHA.

This set of medical requirements makes for a busy annual visit. The program's success will require the cooperation of each unit member. PHA's are due in your birth month and expire one year later. The Physical Exam Section provides each unit scheduler a list of those members due their PHA six months beforehand and immunizations three months prior to expiration. It is the responsibility of the scheduler and the unit member to work together to comply with the requirements. While some reschedules or "no shows" are unavoidable, it is very important to keep your appointment, if possible. This is a challenging workload, and staffing may not be available to accommodate "last minute" surges. Current wing policy

states that those with expired medical requirements will be placed in a "no pay, no points" status until all requirements are completed.

It is important to note that the annual PHA is not the whole picture. Any member with a change in medical status between PHAs -- injury, illness or pregnancy -- must report these to the Physical Exam Section to be certain that their medical profile is current, their worldwide qualification is correctly reflected, and their duties are consistent with their medical condition. Additionally, it is a commander/supervisor responsibility to report a known medical condition of an assigned member to the Physical Exam Section for review.

The PHA program provides the potential to reduce annual visits to the clinic while increasing the overall medical readiness of the force. The Physical Exam Section is up to the challenge and will be working hard to make things flow as quickly as possible while still providing the professional level of medical support needed. It will take a cooperative effort to maximize the effectiveness of the transition from the traditional periodic exam to the RCPHA. Success is achieved only when each member's medical status is current and accurately reflected.

Protect yourself from questionable loan companies

Financial problems impair individual readiness, thereby increasing the risk of mission failure. This kind of risk might not seem as immediate as the risks of flight missions and combat or as insidious as the fear of biological attacks. But, the risk is real and can damage the morale and effectiveness of service members as easily as any of the others. Some members turn to loan companies to solve their financial problems. Many loan companies are legitimate, but some are very questionable and can make the situation much worse for the member and the military family.

Some of these questionable companies claim to specialize in "helping" military members. You can often find their advertisements in military-oriented publications such as newspapers and magazines. They offer "easy credit" to anyone in the military. They don't care if you don't own a house or if you have terrible credit. What they want is for you to start a military pay allotment and get approval from your command for the loan. There is more than one catch. The companies may have you sign a lot of papers, some of which will give away a variety of legal rights, including the right to use a credit consolidation or debt restructuring service to lower your payments. They may try to make you agree that if you go bankrupt, Bankruptcy Court relief will not cover your loan to them. They may even imply that if you seek any relief from the terms of your loan, you could face criminal action. They want to make you fear even questioning the terms of your loan. Many of their techniques can be anything from misleading to downright illegal. That's just the beginning.

The annual rate of interest on these loans may exceed 90 percent. Their advertised interest rate may be only around 17 percent, but, in addition, they charge huge fees that

drive the "real" interest rate sky high. "Telephone fees," "origination fees," "administration fees," "maintenance fees," and similar items may drive up the real cost of the loans tremendously. The companies may also require you to sign up for varieties of insurance so that they get paid if you can't pay. Usually, however, such insurance is of little, real help to the service member. It's just another disguised form of profit for the companies. The companies may even require you to sign over the title of your vehicle to them as added insurance that they will be paid.

The good news is that we can all work together to avoid this trap. Many loan companies -- good and bad -- often require a signature from the commander, first sergeant or supervisor. As leaders, we should be alert when people in our commands ask for endorsement of financial papers. We shouldn't blindly endorse or approve loan paperwork. Look at all of the papers. The same is obviously true for individuals seeking these loans. If there is a question about the loan, bring it to the Legal Office and have one of the attorneys review it.

If you are looking for a loan, ask yourself why you need it. Is it to pay off an overdue bill? If you go with one of these questionable loan companies, it won't be simply an issue of "robbing Peter to pay Paul." With an interest rate near 90 percent, you may end up with a substantially greater debt and be even less likely to pay either obligation. Money trouble can lead to family problems, separation and divorce, other legal problems, and can end up ruining your job performance and your career. A loan will bring quick cash and temporary relief. You need to be sure that it doesn't make things worse in the long run.

General returns to headquarters as vice commander

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - When Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr. became the vice commander of Air Force Reserve Command Dec. 5, it was as much a homecoming as an advancement in his military career.

Batbie, who served as director of Mobilization and Reserve Component Affairs for U.S. European Command in Stuttgart, Germany, replaced Maj. Gen. David R. Smith, who retires effective Dec. 31.

"I spent a year and a half in the purple-suit, joint service world and; while they are good people and it was a great assignment, it's not the same as being with people you have grown up with and are accustomed to," Batbie said. "While there are some new, bright, cheerful faces at Headquarters AFRC, there are still some gray beards here who make this job comfortable. It was great walking through the door - truly a coming home."

As AFRC vice commander, Batbie serves as chief operating officer for the command, overseeing worldwide, day-to-day operation of more than 675 flying and support units, 67,000 reservists, active-duty personnel and civilian employees.

In addition to operating 400 assigned unit aircraft, the Reserve provides approximately 50 percent of the aircrews for some 300 aircraft assigned to other Air Force major commands. The general is also responsible, through the Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver, for the administrative control of the Individual Mobilization Augmentee program and its 12,000 reservists.

Operations tempo in the command began to escalate in late September as the nation recovered from the terrorist attacks and prepared to wage war on terrorism. Three months after the initial mobilization announcement Sept. 20, more than 11,000 Air Force reservists were on active duty for the war on terrorism, compared to the 23,500 called up for the Gulf War.

The general said that despite the partial mobilization, the command will continue its philosophy of relying on volunteers as much as possible during the war.

"Every day we have about 2,000 unit reservists and IMAs on duty as volunteers," he said. "That level of volunteerism kind of mitigates the requirement to call up more folks."

Batbie said public support of the war on terrorism started high and continues to be high, in large part, because of the amount of media coverage.

"This means employers are apt to give more support to the effort, and we are getting that kind of support at this time," he said. "Airline executives, for example, are asking us what we need from them. We are seeing better communication than in the past contingencies."

Support from families is also strong.

"My gut feeling tells me families are proud of how their husbands and wives, sons and daughters contribute to the nation," the general said. "The command needs to

provide support to these same families while the military member is on duty serving. We are doing a lot, but we can always do more for families. Family support is an open-ended business."

Batbie said another major challenge that will face the command is being prepared when the war effort eventually draws down and support by families and employers starts to wane. He urges everyone in the command to do his or her part to help protect the nation and to reduce the threat of terrorism.

From June 1994 to September 1998, Batbie was director of plans and programs at the Reserve headquarters, where he observed his current boss, Lt. Gen. James E. Sherrard III, AFRC commander, and Smith serve as AFRC vice commander. Batbie commanded AFRC's 22nd Air Force, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga., from September 1998 until May 2000 when he took the position in EUCOM.

"From my perspective in EUCOM, a lot of the Air Force reservists who came over to

participate in the area of responsibility were highly respected and well-trained," he said. "They did a great job for EUCOM and the CINC (Gen. Joseph W. Ralston, EUCOM commander-in-chief) and his staff. I got more insight into how our IMAs and units support operations worldwide. I was proud of the way they performed and what they accomplished."

Batbie joined the Army in 1966, serving as an armor officer and later as a Cobra helicopter pilot in Vietnam. After separating from the Army, he joined the Air Force Reserve in 1972 and rose through the ranks to command an air refueling squadron in 1987, a group in 1988 and a wing in 1991 before becoming the command XP in 1994.

It's that unit perspective and concern for people that have prepared him for his new job.

"Part of leadership's job is to make sure we find follow-on missions for our older weapons system and declining mission areas," he said. "I know General Sherrard and the staff have been working hard to have a plan to move into the future smoothly with a minimum amount of turmoil. Historically, the headquarters has been in the business of change, and I think that we've learned how to manage change well."

Although he has been out of the country and away from the Air Force Reserve mainstream, the general has kept abreast of what is happening in the command.

"The manning picture has improved dramatically since I left (the command) a little over 18 months ago," he said. "Down the road, we will still need to recruit people



Maj. Gen. John J. Batbie Jr.
Air Force Reserve Command vice commander

in a very challenging environment. Finding and keeping quality people will continue high priority for the commands for the foreseeable future. It takes a lot of the pressure off when you've got enough of the right people to do our mission."

"The enlisted grade enhancements that were started when I left here have pretty much been implemented," he continued. "That probably had a lot to do with stabilizing the numbers and quality of people we've got today. My hat goes off to the people in AFRC who made it happen."

The general said training challenges are a readiness issue in some career fields and need the command's attention.

"Our planes have been flying reliably at high rates, so the flying end of the business appears to be healthy," he said. "Despite this, we need to be ever watchful of the development of any negative indicators."

Batbie praised the men and women who serve at the headquarters, in the field units and in the IMA program.

"They are truly outstanding," he said. "Their closeness, stability and quality of work are exceptional. They don't get the recognition they deserve."

"Most organizations don't have nearly the range of experience, responsibility and scope that this command has," he said. "One can't help but want to be a part of a great organization like Air Force Reserve Command." (AFRC News Service)



Have you been activated?

Here s some information for you and your family

Identification card facts

The Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS) is a computer-based eligibility data system for activated reservists and family who are entitled to receive TRICARE medical benefits. If you have not already enrolled your family into DEERS, the following information is provided.

For yourself:

You must come to the Customer Service section (Building 838, Room 1403) of the Military Personnel Flight (MPF) to register yourself and your eligible family members into DEERS.

The following information is for your family when they come in to get an ID card “with you.”

Your Spouse:

You will need a copy of your marriage certificate, your spouse’s social security card, and a photo ID. (If you were previously married you must ensure that your divorce is updated in DEERS by bringing the final divorce decree before your new spouse can be added into DEERS).

Your Children:

You must present birth certificates and social security cards for all your children aged 21 and under. Dependents aged 21 - 22 with a disability or in college are authorized an active-duty dependent ID card for the length of your tour. For those in college you will need a letter from the university registrar’s office stating they are full-time students, the degree they are pursuing and an estimated graduation date.

If you the sponsor will not be present at the time your spouse and children come in for their ID cards, you will need to give your spouse the original copy of the Department of Defense Form 1172, with your signature. If there are any questions, please contact Customer Service at:

94 AW Customer Service, Building 838, Room 1403

Point of Contact — Tech. Sgt. Jaini King/Tech. Sgt. Becky Thompson

Phone — (770) 919-4880, if outside the greater Atlanta area 1-888-436-2246, ext. 9-4880

E-mail address: Jaini.King@dobbins.af.mil

Hours of operation — Monday through Thursday — 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. and Friday - 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

TRICARE facts

TRICARE is free to the family members of activated reservists. An ID card and a copy of the sponsor’s orders are needed for medical services. Military members must be treated at the “Military Treatment Facility” (MTF); if treatment isn’t available, members will be referred to an off-base medical facility. Dial the TRICARE phone number (800) 538-9552 to check for eligibility.

3 types of TRICARE

Standard

If the military sponsor is called to active duty for more than 30 consecutive days, spouses and eligible children of reservists become eligible for TRICARE Standard effective on the first day of active duty.

Benefits:

1) Freedom of choice -- any doctor, any hospital, any time, however you will have to pay 20 percent of the “Champus Maximum Allowable Cost” (CMAC). This is the same as the “reasonable or customary cost” of the doctor bill. Be sure and check with your physician.

2) No forms to complete.

3) MTF can be used on a “space available.”

4) No deductible (waived for reservists called to active duty).

Extra

Same as Standard but you must select a Primary Care Manager (PCM) from the directory.

Benefits:

1) You will have to pay for 15 percent of the reasonable or customary cost of the doctor’s bill. Always check with your physician.

2) Extra and Standard can be used in conjunction

with each other.

Prime

If the military sponsor is called to active duty for 179 consecutive days or more, family members may enroll in TRICARE Prime (check with your physician).

Benefits:

1) HMO concept, the most comprehensive (you must select a PMC).

2) Family members have to complete enrollment form and have it to the TRICARE office no later than the 20th of the month in order to be covered by the 1st of the following month.

3) A Prime ID card will be issued (use this instead of DEERS ID card along with copy of sponsor’s orders to receive medical service).

4) No enrollment fee or co-payment for inpatient or outpatient service.

5) When traveling out of area and an emergency occurs, you must notify your Primary Care Manager (PCM) within 24 hours or the next business day after “emergency “ or “urgent care” is received. If you do not call the PCM, then you could incur the entire cost of the medical treatment.

6) You must have an approved referral number from the PCM for any specialty care (i.e., orthopedics, ob-gyn, dermatology, etc.).

TRICARE also offers Dental Benefits through United Concordia and pharmacy benefits. For more information about TRICARE, call (800) 538-9552 (call between 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., Monday - Friday, EST), or check out www.mytricare.com on the internet.

* When calling TRICARE or United Concordia, please be sure to have your military sponsor’s social security number.

Powers of Attorney

Powers of Attorney can be very useful when conducting personal business. They are often required to allow the spouse to manage the financial affairs of the family during the service member’s deployment. Keep in mind, however, that if used incorrectly, this document can be dangerous to your finances; should not be drawn up without legal advice.

Wills

Both service members and their spouses urgently need to update their wills. Wills give instructions on how an estate is to be distributed and can also name the legal guardians of minor children.

Taxes

If you or your spouse is being deployed during the state and local tax season, obtain a special power of attorney for filing taxes and depositing your refund. If necessary, you can also acquire an extension on the filing deadline. To do so, contact the IRS Office for more information. Be sure you understand what records to keep for income tax deductions, such as W-2 Forms, LES, and 1099 Forms. If it is necessary for you to file a State Income Tax return, call or write to your state office for instruction.

Important Papers

Be aware of the location of all your important documents. Some should be stored in a safe-deposit box, while others can be kept at home. Some papers needed are:

- * Military service documents
- * Birth certificates
- * Marriage license
- * Naturalization papers
- * Divorce decree
- * Adoption papers
- * Life and automobile insurance policies
- * Deeds and home mortgage papers
- * Wills
- * Automobile title
- * Savings bond and stock certificates
- * Inventory of household goods

Once Deployed

Members and there dependents are entitled to mission-related legal assistance such as:

- * Dependant car issues
- * Soldiersí and Sailorsí Civil Relief Act Rights
- * Reemployment Rights
- * Casualty Affairs
- * Landlord-Tenant and Lease Issues
- * Involuntary Allotment

Air Force Staff Judge Advocates are not allowed to personally represent members in civil litigation, criminal matters or give advice on commercial issues. JAGS serve as attorneys for the command and generally may not engage in activities that could be viewed as a conflict of interest.

For more information, contact the Legal Services Office at 770-919-5199. The office is located in Building 838, Room 2226, on Dobbins ARB. Legal Assistance Hours are UTA Saturdays from 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

USERRA --

Law protects your rights

Reemployment rights with civilian employers are protected for activated Reservists. The features of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act protect Reservists rights.

Features

USERRA provides protection to anyone absent from a position of civilian employment because of uniformed service if:

- * advance written or verbal notice was given to the civilian employer
- * the cumulative length of absence(s) does not exceed five years
- * the person's character of service was not adverse

Returning to work

A service member must report to work or submit an application for reemployment within a specific period based on the duration of service. The table below contains the limits specified for returning to work. Failure to report or make timely application does not automatically result in loss of reemployment rights but does subject the service member to the rules of conduct, policies and general practices established by the employer, which may result in loss of USERRA protections.

Period of service

- * Less than 31 days

Return/Apply to return to work

Return no later than the first full regularly scheduled work period on the first full calendar day

- * More than 30 days but Less than 181 days Apply no later than 14 days

- * More than 180 days Apply no later than 90 days

There are certain circumstances under which a civilian employer may not be required to reemploy a service member. However, the employer has the burden of proving reemployment is not possible within those circumstances.

Under the act, service members are also entitled to seniority and all the benefits of seniority with their civilian employer as if continuously employed.

Members may also elect to continue the health care coverage provided by their civilian employer for up to 18 months. If the period of coverage exceeds 30 days, the employer can require the employee to pay 102 percent of the full premium costs. For periods of 30 days or less, the employer may require the employee to pay only the employee's share of coverage, if any.

For pensions, employees are to be treated as if no absence in employment occurred and may make up contributions to an employee pension benefit plan.

Assistance

Anyone experiencing problems with civilian employment or reemployment may contact the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve at (800) 336-4590. For assistance on Dobbins call the local ESGR representatives - Senior Master Sgt. Terry Hood at (770) 919-5048 or Master Sgt. Calvin Stevens at (770) 919-3838.



Reserve pay facts

Basic Pay is based on rank and length of service. Basic pay begins on the first day of deployment or activation. Pay is disbursed via electronic deposit on the 15th and last day of the month. Pay grids can be found at www.dfas.mil/money.html.

Housing Allowance (BAH) is tax-free and helps to defray your permanent residence costs. It is based on pay grade, dependent status and geographical location. There are two types of housing allowance: BAH type II is in effect for tours less than 139 days. Full rate BAH is paid for tours over 14 days. BAH rates can be found at www.dtic.mil/perdiem/bah.html.



Subsistence Allowance (BAS) helps to defray the costs of meals and is also a non-taxed subsidy. It is only paid if government rations are not available, access BAS rates at www.dfas.mil/money/milpay/pay.

Other Allowances include CONUS COLA and separation. CONUS COLA is paid to personnel assigned to high-cost locations. Separation is a tax-free payment provided as a reimbursement for some of the expenses incurred during separation for family. Per Diem payments will vary according to your orders. For rates in your deployment area access www.dtic.mil/perdiem.

For more information contact the 94 AW Reserve Pay Office at (770) 919-5315/3519; the office is located in Building 827, Room 4. Or, visit the military pay website at www.dfas.mil.

Military and Family Resources

* Family Support Center - for support before, during and after mobilization and deployment

(770) 919-5004

www.afrc.af.mil/22af/94aw/family_readiness.asp

* Customer Service - for ID cards

(770) 919-4880

* Base Legal - for Power of Attorney and wills

(770) 919-5199

* Base Finance - for Travel and Pay issues

(770) 919-3515

www.dfas.mil

* TRICARE - for Medical benefits

(800) 333-5331

www.tricare.osd.mil

* Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve - for Job Rights

(800) 336-4590

www.esgr.org

* If you live outside of the Atlanta area, dial (888) 436-2246, then ext. 9 and the last four digits of the number you are calling.

Reservists turn houses into classrooms

By Senior Airman Micky Cordiviola
Public Affairs

In October, civil engineer reservists from all over the country began renovating houses into classrooms for the Air Force Reserve Command's Expeditionary Combat Support-Training and Certification Center. The houses, once used as senior NCO base housing, had not been occupied for a number of years and are located across Ga. 280 near the Prime Ribs training site.

The creation of the ECS-TCC evolved from the early 1990s when AFRC disbanded its Regional Operator Training Site at Dobbins Air Reserve Base. The site disbanded to provide manpower for the new Silver Flag Training Site and to create a Specialty Training Location at Tyndall AFB, Fla. Initial intentions were for these two sites to augment each other, but eventually, a new concept led to the consolidation of all STL training and certification efforts at one location. Dobbins ARB was chosen as the site for the consolidation.

"By placing a message for volunteers on the AFRC's Web site for civil engineering, we were able to get a sufficient amount of help for this project," said Master Sgt. Raymond Riel, 796th Civil Engineer Squadron, Eglin AFB, Fla.

"It not only helps the cause of completing the project, it also gives the reservists and Individual Manning Augmentees the opportunity to become more well rounded," said Riel. "By get-

ting hands-on training in plumbing, painting, carpentry and one of the many other skills required in the renovation process, the reservists are able to better themselves for the Air Force as well as their civilian careers." A team of 15 reservists began the project, which has been reduced to an eight-person team. Even with the reduced resource, the project is still on schedule for February completion.

By using reservists to complete the project with annual-tour days and mandays, AFRC saved time by not having to go through the long process of bidding for a contractor. The command invested \$200,000 in materials and \$280,000 in labor to renovate the houses.

"These homes posed a great challenge," said Chief Master Sgt. Bobby Moore, AFRC/CEX. "Almost everything had to be replaced and the walls had to be stripped down. We also replaced the roofs and removed the asbestos. After removing the old infrastructure, we're installing new fiber optics, copper communication lines, a local area network system, a fire protection system and upgrading the electrical system."

"The people who volunteered are giving their time away from their civilian jobs to make this project happen," said Moore. "Without all that support and support from base leadership, our project wouldn't be moving as smoothly as it is." Classes for the new mission are planned to start in the first quarter of 2002.



Located across Ga. Hwy 280, these homes will soon be classrooms for civil engineer specialty training beginning early this year. The houses were gutted and rebuilt to meet office standards with upgrades in electrical wiring, fire protection systems, and networking capabilities. (Photo by Don Peek)



Tech. Sgt. William Dean, 507th Civil Engineer Squadron, Tinker Air Force Base, Okla., paints the outside wall of an office. Each building has several offices for instructors along with classrooms. (Photo by Don Peek)



Staff Sgt. Casey Gros, 94th Civil Engineer Squadron engineering assistant, brightens up the ceiling. Once the buildings were used for senior NCO housing. (Photo by Don Peek)



The Air Force Reserve Command invested \$200,000 in material and another \$280,000 in labor for the remodeling project that produced large classroom areas such as the one shown. Using reservists saved time and money and provided hands-on training for reservists from around the country. (Photo by Don Peek)

January UTA Schedule

*schedule is subject to change

(A FLT) Saturday, January 5

(B FLT) Saturday, January 12

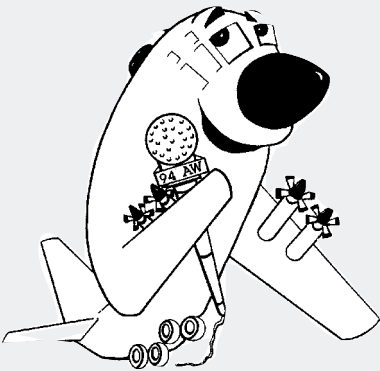
TIME	FLT	ACTIVITY (OPR)	LOCATION
0700-0830	A&B	OPEN RANKS/SIGN IN (CC)	UNIT ASGND
0730-0800	A	WING ELEMENT STAFF MTG	BLDG 838/RM 1202
0730-0900	A	NEWCOMERS INTRO	BLDG 838/WCR
0800	A	M16A2 RIFLE TNG (SFS)	CATM RANGE
0900-1500	A	NEWCOMERS ORIENTATION	BLDG 838/RM 1202
0900-1100	A&B	NBCWD (REFRESHER TNG)(CEX)	BLDG 838/RM 1322
0930-1030	A	OJT MANAGERS MTG (DPMT)	BLDG 838/RM 2304
1000-1100	A	QTRLY PCIII WORKERS GP (JAN/APR/JUL/OCT)	BLDG 827/RM 208B
1100-1200	A	FIRST SERGEANTS GP MTG	BLDG 827/94CF
1300		OCCUPATIONAL PHYSICALS	NAVY CLINIC
1300-1500	A&B	CDC EXAMS	BLDG 838/RM 2304
1300	A	UNIT DP (READINESS) MTG(CEX)	BLDG 838/RM 1322
1300-1500	A	NBCWD (REFRESHER TNG)(CEX)	BLDG 838/RM 1322
1500-1600	A	DEPLOYMENT MGRS MTG(XP)	BLDG 838/WCR
1600		RETREAT (CC) UNIT: 94OG/OSF	BLDG 922/FRONT

(A FLT) Sunday, January 6

(B FLT) Sunday, January 13

TIME	FLT	ACTIVITY (OPR)	LOCATION
0645-0730	A&B	OPEN RANKS/SIGN IN (CC)	UNIT ASGND
0730		PHYSICAL EXAMS (AIRCREW)	NAVY CLINIC
0730	A	M9 PISTOL TNG (SFS)	CATM RANGE
0730	A	M16A2 RIFLE TNG (SFS)	CATM RANGE
0800-1100		IMMUNIZATIONS	NAVY CLINIC
0800		PHYSICAL EXAMS (NON-AIRCREW)	NAVY CLINIC
0830-1100	A	MASK FIT (80APS)	BLDG 838/RM 1322
0900-1000		YELLOW FEVER SHOTS	NAVY CLINIC
0900-1000		CHIEFS GROUP MTG (PA)	BLDG 838/RM 1202
0900-1100	A&B	OUTPROCESSING BRIEF(DPMSA)	BLDG 922/RM 205
		0900-APVD REASGNMTS/RETIREMENTS/SEPARATIONS	
		1000-TDY (30DAYS +/SCHOOL TOURS-ORDERS REQ'D)	
1100-1200	A&B	RETIREMENT BRIEFING	BLDG 922/RM 205
0900-1200	A&B	CDC EXAMS	BLDG 838/RM 2304
0900-1400		NBCWD (INITIAL TNG)(CEX)	BLDG 838/ROOM 1322
1000	A	IG COMPLAINTS	BLDG 838/RM 2105
1000-1030		ENL ADVISOR COUNCIL MTG (SEA)	BLDG 838/WCR
1000-1100		30-DAY RECORD REVIEW	BLDG 838/RM 1202
1130	A	CMDR'S WORKING LUNCH	COM (MARIETTA RM)
1230-1500	A&B	MASK FIT (80APS)	BLDG 838/RM 1322
1300-1400	A	FLYING SAFETY	BLDG 727/700 AS
1300-1500		IMMUNIZATIONS	NAVY CLINIC
1300-1530	A	MILITARY EO	BLDG 838/RM 1202
1315-1400	A	QTRLY SUPERVISOR SAFETY TNG (MAR/JUN/SEP/DEC)	BLDG 744/ 2ND FL TNG RM
1500-1600	A	QTRLY NEWCMRS MTG (94AW/CC) (JAN/APR/JUL/OCT)	CONSOL OPEN MESS

Herk Wonders



What was your fondest memory of 2001?

“My son’s birthday — he turned five. I had a horse brought out to his birthday party and all the kids thought it was great.”

Staff Sgt. Jeannette Russo,
80th Aerial Port Squadron, transportation specialist

“My temporary duty yonder to Germany was quite a memorable experience. I had a great time overseas.”

Tech. Sgt. Richard Winstead, 80th Aerial Port Squadron, air transportation craftsman

“My fondest memory of 2001 was my daughter, Madison, being born.”

Senior Airman G. Scott Jackson, 94th Civil Engineering Squadron, electrician

“The sense of national unity we gained from the attacks on Sept. 11.”

Maj. Detlef Klann, 94th Logistics Support Squadron, chief of supply

“My daughter, Shanetha, left for college.”

Master Sgt. Rosalyn Culbertson, Inspector General’s Office, office assistant

Want to see the UTA schedule sooner? The most current issue of the *Minuteman* is always available online one week prior to the UTA. Access -- http://www.afrc.af.mil/22AF/94aw/pa_minuteman.asp

The 94th Airlift Wing has been receiving an outpouring of support from the local community. In an effort to share that support with the entire wing, this page is a small sampling of some of the letters received. If anyone is interested in writing back to these children, please contact Mavis Salo, 94th Airlift Wing Office of Public Affairs at (770) 919-5055, Building 838, Room 2121.

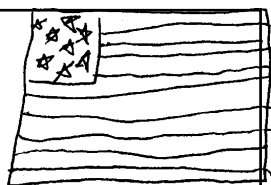
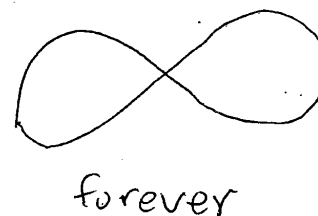


September 13, 2001

Dear Soldier,

Hi! My name is Virginia and I'm 12 years old. I live in Atlanta, Georgia. Though I did not lose anyone in the September 11th tragedy but it still upset me a lot. Thank you so, so much for what you're doing for our country. Don't lose hope, and know that everyone in America is proud of you. Keep safe and hurry home!

Yours Truly,
Virginia



December 13, 2001 The flag

966 W. Paces Ferry Road, N.W. • Atlanta, Georgia 30327-2699 • (404) 262-1345 • Fax (404) 264-9376

Southern Association of Colleges & Schools, NAIS, SAIS, GISA, AAAIS, CEEB, ERB, GHSA

Dear soldier,

Hi, my name is Jasmine. I'm 11 years old and I'm a 6th grader at Pace Academy. I live in Atlanta, Georgia.

I want to thank you for fighting for us. We are very grateful and we appreciate it a lot. Without you we would live very different lives and we wouldn't have all of the freedom we have now. I also want to thank you for voluntarily going off to fight even during the holiday season. It was probably hard to leave your family and friends at this time of the year. Will you please email me. My email address is [redacted]. Thank you again. Without you our lives would be very different, I might not even be alive.

Thank you,
Jasmine ☺

(P.S. Whoop 'em!)



Reservists cope with changes caused by call-up

By Senior Airman Robert Sperling
Air Force Reserve Command Public Affairs

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Reservists called to active duty to support Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle are finding a renewed sense of purpose and patriotism as they answer their country's call.

"After the Sept. 11 terrorist attack, I was the only one of my college classmates that was able to be a part of the response," said a senior airman assigned to an Air Force Reserve Command unit from Charleston AFB, S.C. "It is a great feeling to be a part of something good."

In addition to their contributions to America's war on terrorism, the more than 9,000 reservists who have been called up since Sept. 20 are receiving additional pay and benefits while in active-duty status. Their entitlements include increased military pay, basic allowances for housing and subsistence, Continental United States cost-of-living expenses, and medical and dental benefits for themselves and their families while activated.

An activated reservist receives pay based on years of service and grade. For example, a technical sergeant with more than 18 years of service gets \$2,421.30 a month plus basic allowance for housing and basic allowance for subsistence. Current pay tables are available at www.dfas.mil.

A Reserve technical sergeant with the 917th Civil Engineer Squadron at Barksdale AFB, La., said, "The change in pay from civilian life to active duty has been a respectable increase."

While on active duty as a fireman, he is augmenting

the active force's 2nd CES at Barksdale and will receive approximately \$40,800 annually. In civilian life, where he is also a fireman, he makes approximately \$22,800 a year after his retirement and medical benefits are withdrawn. Some allowances are not taxable for people on active duty and their medical insurance and retirement benefits are not withheld from their paychecks.

Mobilized reservists receive the same medical and dental coverage as their active-duty counterparts. Their families become eligible for TRICARE benefits depending on the duration of the sponsors' active-duty orders. To help families of reservists activated for Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, the Department of Defense has waived TRICARE deductibles for care received since Sept. 14. More information about these benefits is available at www.defenselink.mil/news and www.tricare.osd.mil/reserve/default.htm.

The activation of reservists has caught some families off guard.

"Our command staff had to set up a support chain for all of the reservists and their families who were unfamiliar with all of the new benefits available to them and to assist them as they transition to active duty," said a lieutenant in a security forces squadron in the western United States.

"The majority of my troops are in good spirits and are very excited to be able to participate in such a worthwhile mission and wish that they could do more," said the SFS operations officer. "We have had troops in our squadron who either recently separated or were about to separate reconsider their decision and re-enlist just to be a

part of this mission."

Reserve personnel called to active duty are protected by federal law under the Uniformed Services Re-employment Rights Act of 1994. USERRA provides service members, upon release from active duty, the right to return to their former position or one of similar status, seniority and pay. USERRA applies to involuntary and voluntary duty. For more information concerning USERRA, log on to www.esgr.org.

Reservists and their families are heeding their country's call to arms and doing their best to make a difference. However, for some families, the transition to active-duty military pay and benefits has not been an easy one.

Some corporations are stepping up to cover monthly health insurance premiums and other company benefits for their employees.

The Air Force Aid Society can help activated reservists and their families make the transition, especially if paychecks have been slow in arriving. The AFAS supplies families with basic living needs, emergency travel funds, solutions to childcare problems, and emergency assistance loans and grants and more.

Married reservists and their families are not the only ones having to adjust to full-time military service. The Charleston airman was enrolled in law school when the Sept. 11 terrorist attack occurred.

"After being activated, I had to put that on hold to pursue the needs of my country," he said. "The really great part about serving my country in this way is that the school is holding my spot in this highly competitive degree program." (AFRC News Service)

Technology facilitates another method to cope



Careyann Morris was in the office with her daughter Sarah (2 years old). She and Sarah were able to speak and see Capt. Craig Morris using the Family Support video-phone. Morris is stationed for six months in Turkey (he is an emergency room doctor). His home station is Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio. He was at the Family Support Center in Incirlik. Morris is staying with her parents in Elberton during this deployment. She comes to Marietta weekly to visit her sister. The video phone, located at Dobbins, is part of Family Support's Morale Support program for deployed personnel. (Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bob Purtiman)

Reservist Appreciation Night

Join the Dobbins Consolidated Club for its second monthly reservist appreciation night. The fun begins at 4:30 p.m. with a D.J. and a laser karaoke contest. There will be a drawing for one free year club membership and other fantastic prizes. Admission is free to club members; guests and non-members pay only \$5. This is the club's way of saying thanks to its Dobbins Air Reserve military members.

NCO leadership development program (NCOLDP)

The Base Training Office will be hosting two NCOLDP courses for FY02. The dates are March 11 - 22, 2002 and June 3 - 14, 2002. This course is designed for mid-level enlisted personnel (E-4 minimum grade). The curriculum addresses theories and concepts of leadership and management and is highly recommended prior to you becoming a supervisor. There are 24 seats available for each class, on a first-come, first-serve basis. Personnel selected must be submitted to the Training Office by letter, with commander's signature. Point of contact is Tech. Sgt. Angie Cooper, (770) 919-5043.

Slot on the Resale Lot

Are you looking for a place to sell your car, truck, motorcycle, RV, camper, boat or trailer? Well, the Dobbins Outdoor Recreation/Rental Center has a spot waiting for you. You can showcase a vehicle you want to sell on the Dobbins Resale Lot. Five dollars a month for motorcycles, \$10 for cars or 1/3 ton small trucks, \$15 for 1/2 / 3/4 ton trucks and \$20 for RV's, boats, trailers and campers. For more information, call (770) 919-4872.

Active-duty retirees can get information on joining the AF Reserve

The Air Force Reserve is offering active-duty military retirees the opportunity to return to military service.

The National Defense Authorization Act for FY2001 added Section 12741 to Chapter 1223, Title 10 USC, which permits retired active-component service members who later serve in the Air Force Reserve to elect retirement as members of the retired reserve.

In addition to helping Air Force Reserve Command fill a critical need, active-duty retirees will receive several benefits for continued military service as reservists.

Interested people who believe they qualify for the program may contact the Recruiting Opportunity Center at 1-800-295-4648 where they can leave information for a recruiter to call them back. To learn more about joining the Air Force Reserve, you can visit www.afreserve.com/retiree.

Tuition assistance to increase, including master's degree

Air Force Reserve Command increased the maximum amount of assistance and level of course work offered through its Tuition Assistance Program on Oct. 1.

The maximum aid reservists may receive annually

climbed from \$2,500 to \$3,500, and the program expanded studies from a bachelor's degree up to a master's degree.

The changes are part of the Reserve's ongoing effort to attract recruits and bolster retention.

Unit reservists can learn more about the eligibility requirements and program features from base/wing education and training offices. Individual mobilization augmentees can obtain assistance from Delaina Hull of the military training division at Headquarters Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver. ARPC/DPAT's telephone number is (303) 676-6396 or DSN 926-6396. (AFRC News Service)

Opportunity knocks

Airman, the United States Air Force Academy wants you! Eighty-five appointments are available for Air Force Reservists and National Guardsman who meet the eligibility requirements. Applicants must be at least 17, but no older than 23, on July 1 of the year you want to enter the academy, be an unmarried citizen of the United States, have no dependents and be of good moral character. A well-rounded background is also needed.

If you are interested in earning your college degree at the Air Force Academy and becoming an officer in the U.S. Air Force, call your local Admissions Liaison Officer, Maj. Young, at (770) 805-8660 or the U.S. Air Force Academy at (719) 333-2520.

Family Readiness

Family Readiness continues to visit units to assist members with their personal readiness plan. Members complete the items on their personal affairs checklist and keep the items in a personal affairs packet. Family members should always know where the packet containing items such as wills and powers of attorney, insurance policies, birth and marriage certificates, and bank account numbers are located.

Additional Family Readiness Volunteer spouses are needed for our unit family support groups. The volunteers are trained to assist the unit families at times of major mobilization.

Each unit should have at least five volunteers for its family support group.

For more information, contact J. Ealy Ritter at (770) 919-5004. If out of the Atlanta area, call toll free (888) 436-2246, ext. 9-5004.

In times like these

Now, more than ever, family support information is paramount. Mission readiness corresponds to family readiness. The following list of links was compiled to help families prepare for what may lie ahead: the American Red Cross — www.redcross.org, Family Tool Kit — www.defenselink.mil/ra/family/toolkit, Veterans Affairs — www.va.gov, TRICARE — www.tricare.osd.mil, Reemployment rights — www.ncesgr.osd.mil, Dobbins Family Support — www.afrc.af.mil/22af/94aw/familyreadiness.asp and Family Support — www.afcrossroads.com.

Show your gratitude

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

wants to recognize supportive employers for aiding the Reserve in serving the nation. Reservists can nominate their employers, who support them in employment, for an ESGR Award. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Terry Hood, local ESGR volunteer, at (770) 919-5048.

Conflict resolution

The Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve wants to help reservists solve conflicts with their civilian employers. The ESGR Ombudsman Program is an informal mediation service available to uniformed service members or their employers who are experiencing conflict because of military duty. For information about this or any other ESGR Programs, contact Senior Master Sgt. Terry Hood at (770) 919-5048 or the National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (NCESGR) at (800) 336-4590.



Recognizing the importance of family support, even at the fund-raising level, Chief Master Sgt. Jim McKenna presents a Top-Three Certificate to Zephren Samfield, son of Master Sgt. Emily Samfield, 622nd Regional Support Group Medical Division. Zephren helped the Top 3 raise funds selling food at this year's Airshow. (Photo by Don Peek)



Tech. Sgt. Sylvia Knight (left), family support technician, presents Master Sgt. Don Johnson, 94th Security Forces first sergeant, with children's gifts donated by the USO to activated reservists. (Photo by Senior Airman Michelle Stevenson)



Maj. Cheryl Wayne assumed command of the 94th Mission Support Squadron during ceremonies held at Dobbins ARB in December. Wayne had been the 622nd Regional Support Group Military Equal Opportunity chief. Col. Jeffrey Ippolito, 94th AW Support Group commander, passes the unit colors to Wayne while MSS First Sgt. Ernest Wayne Sanders looks on. The assignment is Wayne's first command position. (Photo by Don Peek)

Herk Ye

Newly Assigned

- Maj. Terry Lawrence
- Maj. Paul R. Pinkstaff
- Senior Master Sgt. Steven J. Badowski
- Master Sgt. Nicholas Demko
- Tech. Sgt. Maritza Dejesus
- Tech. Sgt. Audrey Fletcher
- Tech. Sgt. Stephanie Gillis
- Staff Sgt. Damaris R. Jenkins
- Staff Sgt. Phillip Marchwinski
- Senior Airman Shaquan S. Ensley
- Senior Airman Walter Ford
- Senior Airman Jonathan F. Holmes
- Senior Airman Joseph E. Powell
- Senior Airman Jeffrey L. Riddle
- Senior Airman Earl L. Tate
- Senior Airman Christopher A. Veilleux
- Senior Airman Arrik V. Williams



Dobbins Services
1492 First Street
Building 922, Room 216
Dobbins ARB, GA 30069-5010

Dobbins Air Reserve Base Consolidated Club Members WELCOME BACK!

We are opening our doors and resuming limited activities at our club in order to better serve our membership. We apologize for the extended period of time we were not operating, and we thank you for your continued support of your military and your club. Following is a list of the programs we will be resuming:

- New Year's Day party with an admission price of \$5 which includes hot dogs, hamburgers, and your first beverage.
- A Membership Appreciation Night February 23, 2002. This event is free to members, and guests are \$5. One significant other over 18 years of age is permitted. Dinner is first come first served and will be served from 6:00-8:00pm.
- Night Bingo Games on Thursday evenings. Cards go on sale at 6:00pm, games begin at 7:00pm. These night games will begin January 3, 2002. Prizes will be commiserate with income.
- A continuation of our Day Bingo Games Program on Tuesday afternoons. Cards go on sale at 2:00pm, games begin at 2:30pm. Prizes will be commiserate with income.
- Evening Dining on Friday evenings:
 - Seafood Buffet—January 4, February 1, and March 1
 - Italian Buffet—January 11, February 8, March 8
 - Cajun Buffet—January 18, February 15, March 15
 - Mexican Buffet—January 25, February 22, March 22
 - Hawaiian Luau—March 29

Each night Prime Rib and Chicken Supreme will also be available

If you are a club member that is an employee or retiree of Lockheed Martin please call Rhonda Ingram at 770-919-5041 or Missy Bozeman at 770-919-4797 at your earliest possible convenience. We will use your information to compile a list that we will provide to Security Forces in order to get you on base.

As we resume other programs we will inform our membership as we are here to serve you. If you have any questions or would like some more information please call Julie McKinney at 770-919-4975, Rhonda Ingram at 770-919-5041, or Missy Bozeman at 770-919-4797.

Thank you and God Bless America,

Jesse C. Holcomb

JESSE C. HOLCOMB
Chief of Services



Mobilization affects major units

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - With the mobilization of reservists from the 939th Rescue Wing, Portland International Airport, Ore., Dec. 19, Air Force Reserve Command has called up members from every major operational flying unit.

Three months after the initial mobilization announcement Sept. 20, more than 11,000 unit reservists and individual mobilization augmentees were on active duty to support America's war on terrorism.

Not all of them have gone overseas for Operation Enduring Freedom. Some have been activated in place or placed elsewhere in the United States for homeland defense.

In mid-December, AFRC began placing C-130 airlift crews from the 302nd Airlift Wing, Peterson AFB, Colo., on active duty for the first time. In addition to other types of airlifters, the command flies helicopters and a vast array of planes, including air refueling, bomber, fighter, rescue, special operations and weather reconnaissance aircraft.

Other mobilized reservists from around the command include aircraft maintainers, civil engineers, security forces, medical personnel and space operations personnel.

Major units not affected by the call-up are the 340th Flying Training Group and the 622nd Flight Test Group because of the nature of their missions.

In addition to mobilized reservists, the command has about 2,000 unit reservists and IMAs on duty every day as volunteers. One week after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, more than 7,200 volunteered for various duties. (AFRC News Service)

Reserve band adds patriotic flair to Disney parade

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE, Ga. - Christmas came early for thousands of cheering guests at Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom, Dec. 5, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. Members of the Band of the Air Force Reserve, led by Drum Major Senior Master Sgt. Jack Story and commanded by Maj. Alan Clark, performed for an upcoming ABC television special, hosted by Regis Philbin.

The band traveled by bus for eight hours from its home at Robins to Kissimmee, Fla. to tape its portion of the program to be aired on Christmas Day. A production crew from Los Angeles recorded patriotic standards on a back lot, then videotaped the band members as they marched through Liberty Square and the Hall of the Presidents in full military dress,

the road during 2001, performing at more than 500 venues.

"We understand there are thousands of uniformed personnel who will be deployed on Christmas Day while we'll be home with our families," Ballengee added. "It's a huge honor to have been selected to participate in an event that has become a televised family tradition, and our guys were pumped."

The band commander echoed the sentiment. "While we are enjoying ourselves this year, we need to also remember the many troops who are deployed around the world, fighting to defend our way of life," Clark said.

ABC was looking for a military band, in uniform, to perform the patriotic portion of the program. The production

company contracted by ABC, Planet Grande, offered to pay for the band's lodging, greatly reducing the operational costs for the trip.

Staff Sgt. Janis Thrift, one of the band's pipers, coordinated logistical details. "Bob Radock, Disney's entertainment director, and John Fitzgerald of Planet Grande

were true professionals," Thrift said. "They knew exactly what they wanted."

Both company representatives praised the band

members' talent and professionalism.

"Our producer expressed to me that the band was outstanding and their taping was a highlight of the week," Radock said. "We were proud Americans watching the band's performance here at Walt Disney World Resort."

"I just watched the rough cut of the Band of the Air Force Reserve and must say this is one of the more moving performances I have witnessed in many years," added Fitzgerald. "The crowd's emotional reaction to the bagpipe-enhanced version of God Bless America will give our viewers a sense of comfort and pride."

Although the unit serves primarily in



Framed by members of the Robins Air Force Base, Ga., Honor Guard, Airman 1st Class Carolyn Gill, along with other members of the Band of the Air Force Reserve, performs Stars and Stripes Forever at opening ceremonies for the Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom Christmas parade Dec. 5. ABC-TV broadcasted the parade nationwide Christmas morning. (U.S. Air Force photo by Dave Ballengee)

the Southeastern United States, the Band of the Air Force Reserve has traveled throughout the world. Performances include the Peace Victory Day Parade in

Moscow; the Victory in Europe Day Parade in St. Petersburg, Russia; U.S. Capitol functions; and the Rose Parade in Pasadena, Calif. (AFRC News Service)



Bagpiper Senior Airman Becky Snyder and drummer Staff Sgt. Jeff Bare (right) lead the Band of the Air Force Reserve in the Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom Christmas parade Dec. 5 in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. The Reserve band and members of the Robins Air Force Base, Ga., Honor Guard represented all U.S. armed forces at the annual parade, which was broadcasted by ABC-TV nationally Christmas morning. (U.S. Air Force photo by Dave Ballengee)

led by the Bagpipe and Drum Corps.

"I first received the call about asking our band to do this during our Operation Seasons Greetings Tour to Europe," explained the band operations officer, Dave Ballengee. "We were tired and cold, but the idea of being a part of Disney's Christmas Day Parade kind of warmed us up."

The two-hour program aired Dec. 25 on ABC.

Fifty-three members of the band, plus personnel from the Robins Honor Guard, represented the Air Force Reserve Command. Bandsmen and technicians had already spent an average of 85 days on



Members of the Robins Air Force Base, Ga., Honor Guard lead the Band of the Air Force Reserve at Walt Disney World's Magic Kingdom Christmas parade in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. (U.S. Air Force photo by Dave Ballengee)